



Mt. Charleston Town Advisory Board



MINUTES **MT. CHARLESTON TOWN ADVISORY BOARD**

Thursday, April 28, 2011

Members Present: Pat Fitzgibbons Chair, , Curtis Alexander Vice-Chair , Michael McGroarty,
George Togliatti, Becky Grismanauskas

Members absent: None

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was posted in conformance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Town Board members, County, State, Federal Government representatives, Public Utilities and Public Services representatives introduced themselves.

ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

The agenda for April 28, 2011 was approved.
The minutes for March 31, 2011 were approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Commissioner Brown updated the community about;

AB400 proposes that all Town Board members be elected. The County Commissioners are opposed. Mt. Charleston is excluded and the bill is in the amendment process.

SB226 deals with trapping within the city limits and has been referred to the Nevada Wildlife Commissioner for development of appropriate regulation.

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VIRGINIA VALENTINE, County Manager

SB232 deals with the 4 parcels of land in Lee Canyon (the meadows have been made safer thanks to all agencies on the mountain). The county would like to trade their land in the meadows for the land under Camp Lee. Commissioner Brown is in support of the bill to have safe snow play with restrictions of no multi-family and limited commercial uses on the land. The county will not relinquish land use rights.

Stephanie Myers asked- Why was Warren Hardy (paid lobbyist for Ski Lee) the only person to speak at the April 19th hearing?

Commissioner Brown said please come to the May 2nd meeting and the commissioners will listen to your concerns.

SB396- License Plate Funds; This bill transfers administration from State Lands to the Clark County Commissioner with an advisory role by the Mt. Charleston town board. With the money at the county there will be more room to be creative with the distribution.

Commissioner Brown is very pleased with the results of NDF staying on the mountain until 2015, but states that the fight is not over and we need to demonstrate why Mt. Charleston is different from other areas and why we need NDF to stay here long term. The county agreed to subsidize the funding of NDF for this upcoming fiscal year in full.

The Mt. Charleston VDF expansion is on schedule with construction starting soon and there is a 50/50 chance of getting a new generator.

June 4th is the pine needle pickup with a community BBQ at the VDF.

Old Town roads- there are no recorded maps and the roads were never formally dedicated to the County. The property owners in Old Town will need 100% participation in deeding their interest in the roads and drainage if Clark County is to take over the roads.

The Judge Beal Promontory naming has hit a snag with the USFS. They are trying to get the matter resolved.

Irene Navis is researching grant opportunities for the early warning system on Mt. Charleston.

There have been complaints about the Mt. Charleston trail rides facility. The county is looking into it.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Dept. – Sgt. Eric Fricker reported, there has been no more mail theft. If residents have a problem call Metro and Postal Service. There is a lot of construction happening right now so expect some noise. The noise ordinance is ambiguous and is sun up to sun down, please be patient. Three officers from Metro are now volunteer fire fighters with the VDF. Two officers will be certified for structure and wild land fires. Elk and deer have been reported by the heliport so please be careful.

Clark County Fire Dept. – Mike Johnson reported educational classes are finishing up. We are bringing in wild land equipment.

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Nevada Division of Forestry – Jorge Gonzales reported he just received a press release stating that NDF will stay on the Mountain until June 2015 providing all risk protection. There have been only 10 calls since March. This is because it is the transition period between winter and summer. Brush truck 5320 has been deployed since April to Texas to assist in a fire. May 16th the seasonal staff will arrive.

Fire protection officer Ben Bolton stated that NDF has funds to help residents deal with all the downed trees. This is a combined effort and encourage all from Kyle and Lee Canyons to sign up. NDF conservation crews will be doing the work.

Las Vegas Valley Water District – Jordan Bunker reported it is anticipated that in October the 1st official meter read will take place and the first metered bill will arrive in November. Since the improvements, there have been a small amount of customer leaks. The meter service department has reported some tampering with meters. We are in the sustainable level. Echo 3 well is completely full and Echo 4 well is 69 feet below ground level.

Mt. Charleston Volunteer Fire Dept. – Dave Martin reported they held the raffle 2 weeks ago for the motorcycle. May 6 is the VDF fundraiser at the Lodge at 6pm. We have resident stickers for sale \$20 each. This money will go to uniforms and EMT classes.

Visitors Impact Task Force – Becky Grismanauskas wants to thank the community for fighting the closure of NDF station. The task force will reconvene in 3 weeks. There will be emails sent out with date and time.

United States Forest Service – Judy Suing, Al Yoshida- Engineer & Designer of the Upper Kyle Mary Jane trailhead parking project. Currently there is not enough parking and Old Ski Tow was used for dispersed camping with no restrooms. This project will put in a 1.8 acre paved parking off Echo Road and a dirt area for equestrian parking. They will be closing off the parking at Mary Jane Falls and no more dispersed camping at Old Ski Tow. The Forest Service believes the benefit is that it will be accessible for winter and will be plowed.

Linda Flemming asked will USFS be working with the county about the plowing.
Judy Suing stated that yes they have a meeting scheduled with the agencies on the mountain.

A resident asked why we are accommodating equestrians.
Judy stated that surveys were sent out and the equestrians were very happy and the trails are multi-use.

Linda Flemming stated that USFS should pave by Mary Jane Falls because visitors have already destroyed the area and they should not destroy pristine areas.
Judy Suing stated that rough angelica is growing in that area and need to let it grow back.

Michele French asked what about the avalanche zone?
Judy Suing stated it is tough dealing with year round access and plant life. This is not a perfect plan but the best solution available.

Deb Martin asked why does there have to be snow play in Kyle Canyon? We thought it was going to stop.

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Judy Suing stated it is not designated snow play area but Forestry will not run them out. A resident stated that there should have been an open meeting for public input because no one on the mountain is happy about this plan. Pat Fitzgibbons and Mike McGroarty asked Judy Suing to go to Stephanie Phillips to try and set up a public meeting at their building.

Chris Munhall stated that all agencies on the mountain have a meeting with Stephanie Phillips on April 30th.

Resident Skip Mitchell asked how far along is this process? Is it set in stone? From a resident stand point could we back up and come up with something better?

Judy Suing stated that they are still in the scoping phase and has come to 3 meetings to listen to residents' concerns.

George Togliatti said he understands but the residents don't agree and no one says it is a good plan but USFS. The biggest concern is safety and it seems no other agencies are on board. Judy Suing said please bring in your suggestions because we want to hear them.

Curtis Alexander asked where the water runoff is going to go. That's 3 acres of paved land. Al Yoshida stated that it is 1 acre of paved land and .5 acre of gravel and they will divert it to the existing wash.

Sgt. Eric Fricker stated that the agencies are adamantly opposed and this is going to create more of a night mare.

Clark County Administrative Services – Chris Munhall, see Community Concerns.

Nevada Fire Safe Council – Tom Padden reported that the chippers will be out on May 2nd and May 3rd. They can chip branches up to 6 inches in diameter. Let Kim Otero know by April 30th if you want to keep the chips. NFSC was denied SNPLMA money. We need to send letters asking why we did not receive any money. We are the top fire protection district and top extreme fire risk.

Nevada Highway Patrol – Sgt. Eric Fricker reported that Sgt. Reimer is leaving the mountain. No replacement has been named.

Nevada Department of Transportation – Tommy Thompson reported that State Route 157 is scheduled to get chip seal. The road safety audit is in and there might be possible projects coming up.

Ron McMeney asked will there be guard rails going in at mile marker 6 on SR156. Tommy Thompson said he would look into it.

Other Agencies – No report.

TOWN ADVISORY BOARD COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

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Roads – Curtis Alexander - no report

Public Response – Mike McGroarty - no report

Kyle Canyon Water District – George Togliatti - no report

Fire Protection District – Becky Grismanauskas - no report

License Plate – Pat Fitzgibbons – no report

CORRESPONDENCE - None

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION -

Set Next Meeting Date. There is a Special Call meeting scheduled for January 13, 2011. The next regular meeting will be *Thursday, June 2, 2011*.

The meeting was adjourned.

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